Saint Joseph's College

STUFF

Issue 4 November 3, 1994 Volume 58

The SJC Insect Invasion
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M.J. Shannon does some work in the Grotto. Shannon and others have been active in Grotto Beautification.

Effort put in Grotto Beautification

by DeAnn Hazzard

The facelift and beautification of the Grotto is due to the work of volunteers willing to offer their time in making the Grotto a special place on campus.

"In former days, it was pretty well hidden by trees—a secluded retreat to pray, but we've opened it up because we feel it should be one of the main attractions on campus," said Fr. Charles Rueve.

About eight to ten years ago, the restoration of the Grotto to its original order began with a lot of help from the students at that time.

Today the work to restore and beautify the Grotto continues. The trees that once hid the Grotto have been removed and the weeds and the cave have been cleaned out. Flowers have been planted by M.J. Shannon and Fr. Rueve to add to the landscape.

Fr. Rueve said the purpose of caring for the Grotto is because we are a "Catholic Institution and we want to show our respect and honor for the Blessed Virgin Mary."

According to Shannon, Fr. Rueve has put a lot of work into maintaining the Grotto and is the "care person of the Grotto."

With funding and help from Prof. Thiel, students volunteered their time to strip and refinish the candle holders and prayer benches.

Along with trying to restore the brick pathways along the Grotto a side project is to provide nightlights for the statue of Mary from the old Administration Building.

"It is the oldest thing on this side of campus. It is a trademark of our campus and it demands our respect," said senior Patrick Schuttrow.

David Lieb and Schuttrow have begun a prayer group of growing attendance that meets every Thursday evening at 7:00, weather permitting, at the Grotto to pray the rosary.

According to Shannon the care of the Grotto is a "labor of love—it's giving back something to the College."

Kairos: a chance to know self and others

by Julia Garcia

"I was very skeptical about the retreat, but it turned out to be one of the best experiences of my life," stated senior Candace McGroarty. "I am extremely honored to be chosen as a leader for the Kairos Retreat," added McGroarty.

Campus Ministry sponsoring Saint Joseph's College's seventeenth Kairos Retreat which will be held starting tonight until Sunday, Nov. 6 at Simetz Center, a retreat center in Hammond, Indiana.

"It's a chance for people to get away and become in touch with themselves, other people, and God," stated Sister Linda Kors, Director of Campus Ministry. The weekend is spent engaging in large and small group discussions with special talks given by Saint Joe students.

Most importantly, each person finds the sufficient time to meditate about the important things in his/her life. Even though it is too late for people to sign up for the Kairos Retreat in November, everyone is invited to the next Kairos Retreat which will be held the weekend after Spring Break. The cost is $35.00, but some financial aid is available for those who may need it.

"Each retreat is always a good experience for those who come. You get to know a whole new group of people and see the discoveries people make in their lives," stated Sr. Linda.

"I thought it was an excellent experience and an excellent opportunity to develop teacher/student relationships and to grow in holiness," stated Father James Froelich.

Aside from faculty, students who have already attended the retreat feel that Kairos has helped them in their lives. "It's the best opportunity for people to find out about themselves and others...to reflect about who they are, where they're going, and their relationship with God," stated Tracie Barton, co-rector for the retreat.

Brian Guerre who has attended the retreat twice and is co-rector this year stated, "Each time I went, I was able to get something out of it. As a leader the second time, I found that I was able to give something."

Those interested in the Kairos Retreat in March should contact Sr. Linda in the Campus Ministry office.

ALD inducts students

by Klaudia Janek

The Alpha Lambda Delta (ALD) induction ceremony took place on Saturday, Oct. 29, 1994 at Saint Joseph's College.

"The purpose of the society shall be to encourage superior academic achievement among students in their first year in institutions of higher education, to promote intelligent living and a continued high standard of learning, and to assist women and men in recognizing and developing meaningful goals for their roles in society," states Article 2 of the ALD Constitution.

ALD has 214 chapters throughout the United States, and more than 425,000 students have been initiated. Membership into Alpha Lambda Delta is an honor given only to those students who earned at least a 3.5 grade point average during their freshman year.

Students must also be registered for a full course of study leading to a bachelor's degree and must rank in the top 20 percent of their class. Once initiated, the student becomes a lifetime member of ALD.

41 new members were initiated into the Saint Joseph's chapter of ALD. The new inductees are: Jennifer Baird, Analei Brannin, Jude Clover, Chad Cook, Brian DiPaolo, James Dyke, Paul Erck, Sherry Forsythe, Andrea Gray, Carolyn Groen,

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

After reading the editorial of STUFF one afternoon, Amy Penrod and I decided to try out the screamers. My R.A., Kristen Hansen, had picked up three screamers for the ladies of Halas Second. We wanted to test the sound quality and the effectiveness of the screamers. The screamers are said to be "...good for approximately 30 to 40 shrill alarms." It is also said to produce "...a piercing shriek at the flick of a finger. Can be heard for clocks." Amy walked out into the Grotto and tried to set off a screamer. It was a dud. It made us wonder how many more of these screamers were duds. We tried all three screamers that were given to Kristen Hansen from Campus Life. I stood in front of Halas Hall while Amy walked to the Grotto. Our attacker, Shelly LaBorde, waited for Amy to get into the Grotto and attempted to "assault" her. When Amy tried to call for help using her screamer, she was disappointed in the fact that all that was emitted was mist.

When tested outside, there was no evidence of a scream from any of the three screamers. When tested later, inside, one emitted "peeps." My question is "Where is this supposed to be used?" Isn't it supposed to help you get attention when no one else is around? when you are outside is when it is more likely to be needed.

"Carrying the 'screamer' may be a good idea for a safe walk across campus..." — jml. I disagree with that statement. Since when is carrying something that doesn't work a good idea for a safe walk across campus?

—Andrea Bernardon

Dear Editor:

After reading jml's article on Saint Joseph's latest security device — the "Screamer," my friends and I decided to conduct our own campus test to see if this device truly would effectively " ..chase away attackers."

We obtained our three allotted SABRE Sound Alarms through our Resident Assistant and set out to conduct our experiment. I, armed with my trusty (?) "Screamer" ventured into the Grotto — a likely backdrop for any unwarranted attack — and proceeded to attempt to sound my alarm when I was "attacked" by experimenter Shelly LaBorde. Andrea Bernardon, the third experimenter, anxiously awaited the "...piercing shriek..." scheduled to be sounded; yet, she heard nothing, due to the fact that NOTHING, excluding a faint peep, was emitted from the can. I was being mugged and mangled; yet, nothing was happening with my security device given to me by Saint Joseph's administrators.

What was to become of me? What if my fellow experimenter had not been such? What if it had been some crazed lunatic from TimBuckTwo? Could "...a piercing shriek [have then been emitted] at the flick of a finger?"

We wondered much the same; therefore, we duplicated our experiment — not once, but twice, and we reproduced much the same results — or lack thereof. Only one of out three "SABRE Sound Alarms" emitted the "...distress signal..." the package promised, yet even then, it failed to catch several passer-bys attention.

According to jml, "...the 'Screamer' may be a good idea for a safe walk across campus..." I, however, beg to differ. It was on our "walk across campus" in which the product failed!

Also, according to jml, "...SJC needs a system that will PREVENT attacks and occurrences..." I agree; however, I do not feel that the College should spend thousands of dollars on either a key or swipe card system.

The opportunity for change lies within the students of Saint Joseph's. If we would accept the responsibility of protecting both ourselves and others in an effective manner we could be out own "preventative security system."

—Amy Penrod

To the Editor:

With the holiday season approaching, a great opportunity to support the Rensselaer community is available to Saint Joseph's College students struck with the Christmas spirit.

The annual Gallagher Charitable Society Christmas Party is currently being organized and students, faculty and local businesses are encouraged to contribute.

The Gallagher Charitable Society was originally formed to covertly fund beer parties in Gallager Hall. However, the award winning organization now focuses its time and resources on assisting needy children in the Rensselaer area. Annually, a Christmas party is held in the Halleck Center Ballroom. In addition to a brunch served to families, the children all receive Christmas gifts from Santa Claus.

In order for the event to be a success, the Gallagher Charitable Society depends on the financial contributions of students, faculty and area businesses. Cafe numbers have already been collected from students, but further donations are needed. Anyone interested in making a donation or volunteering other services should contact Kurt Krouse, Jenn Allgeyer, Jeff Coan, Clayton Temple, or myself.

Support a growing relationship between the College and the Rensselaer community, as well as providing area children with a Christmas to remember. Please support the Gallagher Charitable Society.

-Jonathan Bringewatt

To the Editor:

Let me set the scenario for you. It is Thursday night and I am working at the switchboard. I am swamped with calls for Core XI, pizza establishments, Bennie's, not to mention the students calling for other student's extensions. During a typical night shift, we switchboard operators barely have time to breath, much less chat with friends or get involved in a television show or homework.

So people who call the switchboard for their friend's extension may hear he phone ring and ring, but we hear the same thing. We constantly handle calls from parents who lost their child's extension, or an old friend who does not know their friend's extension, or most likely, a student who is too lazy to find their little yellow directory. Not to mention calling Security in cases of emergencies.

We, at the switchboard, are human, and we do the best that we can do. We attempt to be pleasant on the phone and retrieve the extension the caller desires as quick as possible. But the students at SJC should realize that while you call to get so-and-so's extension, you are not the only one. Everybody uses the switchboard to find the extension that they could get from their directory or even through Audix (**6). We realize that students may have to wait a while when they call but it is not because we are ignoring their call; it is because we are truly busy. Also, long distance calls automatically receive priority over campus calls — the system is set up that way.

Administration has taken into consideration life-threatening emergencies, which is why the new Emergency-1 system has gone into effect. As of now, if a student dials "1" on their phone, it will ring a separate phone at the switchboard. These calls will take precedence and the conversation will be automatically taped. This line is to be used only in serious emergencies. Ernest and Mr. Maniscalco will review the contents of the tapes and "prank callers" will be severely reprimanded by Ernest. Now, with this system in effect, people will no longer have to worry about their emergency calls being ignored. And, if students use their directory and the directory in Audi, then we could concentrate on more pressing calls from off campus.

The switchboard operators are opening the switchboard to anyone from the SJC community who still has a gripe about our work. If you think that we sit and do nothing, why don't you spend one hour at the switchboard and see just how busy we get. We ask you not to criticize our work until you have an understanding of what being an operator involves.

—Eileen Wodda

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Special Thanks
Jonathan Bringewatt

The following individuals prepared stories for this issue; however, because of space limitations, we had to cut their stories. Some of the stories will appear in future issues.

SJC NEWS BRIEFS

November 3, 1994

Student Senate business in review

In past Student Senate business, Joel O'Neal spoke about PEFCU. Vice President Kurt Krouse announced the freshman class officers (President, Reggie Stevenson; VicePresident, Jennifer Palmer; Secretary, Jill Peterson; Treasurer, Stephanie Witkemper). Gwen Johnson, director of SUB spoke about the up coming SUB activities.

Other business included discussion on an improved security system in the women's dorms, discussion on the new grading scale, action to prevent the theft of smoking signs, and the theft of Noll Hall's grill.

Business discussed at the October 17 Senate Meeting included: a discussion by Student Life about their attempt to change WPUM-Channel 6, Student Life also announced the need to pass a visitation policy because none has really been passed before, and they announced that something will be done about security in the dorms.

In other business, the Computer Club announced that they replaced laser printers and purchased thirty new machines. They also discussed the need for a safety/ security system for the Upstairs Lab.

The junior class brought the band, Doxie, on Thursday, October 20. The sophomore class sent flowers to Leonard Lofton after his accident.

Students In Free Enterprise Sponsor Speaker

SIFE's Starting and Managing Speaker Series will be sponsoring a presentation by Mr. Bill Johnston tonight at 7:00 p.m. in the Halleck Center South Lounge.

Johnston will be speaking on "The Changing Nature of Managing American Corporations." Johnston is the Executive Vice President of Administration at Morton International, Inc., an alumni of Saint Joe's, and a member of the Board of Trustees.

SIFE meets on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in Halleck Center South Lounge.

ALD contiuned

Jason Grzegorek, Darren Haas, Rhonda Hanley, Klaudia Janek, Karey Klott, Ryan Koppelman, Elizabeth Lieb, Beth Liming, Amanda Long, Bernard Lane, Rachel Mahns, Amy McConville, Jeffrey Norus, Jason O'Brien, Jill Ogger, Valerie Pflum, Holly Pickens, Jason Potthoff, Lawrence Satkoski, Terra Schafer, Brad Schmid, Sean Shannon, Miranda Shaw, Amanda Taylor, David Templin, Brian Tobe, Jane Wimberg, Laura Witek, Denise Zielinski, Theresa Ziemba and Chris Zumstein.

The Saint Joseph's chapter of ALD tries to encourage honor, publicize scholarship and fulfill the Catholic mission of the College. In the past, ALD has brought speakers and other similar activities to the Saint Joseph's Community.

These are some of the Sophomores inducted into the SJC Chapter of Alpha Lambda Delta at a ceremony held last Saturday in the Ballroom. ALD is a national honor society recognizing Freshmen who have met the organization's requirements.

Trip to Appalachia brings reality, friendships to students

by Krisie Kimerer

A group of students from Campus Ministry will be traveling to Appalachia over the Thanksgiving break. This is the third year that Campus Ministry at Saint Joseph's College has gone to Nora, Virginia to interact with the families.

Sister Linda Kors initiated the trips when she first came to Saint Joe, as she had already been going for six years. Their accommodations while visiting the area will be the bunk house of Binns-Counts Center. The Center is an organization that was formed by the local church people. The cost to go on the trip is only forty dollars.

The purpose of the trip is, "a chance to become more aware of other situations," says Sr. Linda. The area known as Appalachia is one of the most poverty stricken in the United States.

According to Sr. Linda, "The students who go on this trip come back with a different perspective on poverty. They realize that abject poverty does not go hand-in-hand with laziness."

The twelve students who are going will be leaving early Friday morning, Nov. 18, in order to arrive on Friday night. They plan to stay for three days.

Among some of their goals, they plan on assisting to distribute food through Share Food. This also gives them the opportunity to meet and interact with the local people. The students will be visiting the town of Trammel which had been owned by a coal company.

The economy of the town of Trammel revolves around the coal mining industry. Several years ago, the coal mining company which owned the town decided to sell.

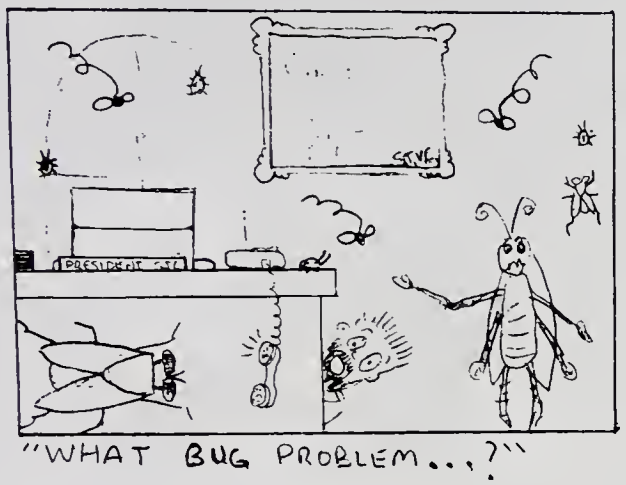
In an effort to save their homes, the people organized a homeowners association. They were able to purchase their homes from the company with the assistance of grants and donations from charitable organizations.

Since the residents gained ownership, the houses, which previously did not have indoor plumbing or proper insulation to prevent heat loss in the winter, have been upgraded. Through a grant from the federal government, the houses in Trammel have new windows to assist in improving the heat loss in the winter.

During the yearly visits, Saint Joseph's students have established an ongoing friendship with many of the residents. Sr. Linda recalls one woman named Claddy who tells her story to the students each year. "Her story serves as a symbol of the women in the area," says Sister Linda.

The group is planning on leaving Appalachia Tuesday morning, so they can return in time to spend Thanksgiving with their families.

Bugs invade SJC



Artwork by Sean VanCoutren

by Rachel Barlage

"Oh, my God, there's a bug on the ceiling!"

This cry, which echoed through the second floor of Halas last week, is not an unfamiliar one on Saint Joseph's College campus. One of the most common topics of conversation in the past month has been the "Bug Invasion" that has plagued the dorm rooms of many students.

Transfer student Kristie Bondra said that before her current problem with ladybugs, she had several large, brown bugs in her room. "I don't know what they're called, but they're HUGE!" Bondra had at least five of these bugs, which were probably stinkbugs, in her room each day. She added, "They're gross; they're ugly; I hate them; they're disgusting."

Freshman Bradley Gellert had a different attitude toward the ladybugs occupying his room. He said, "They're God's creatures and they have a right to be on this planet too. But I feel that they should pay tuition if they're going to sleep in our dorms."

The most common complaints involve stinkbugs and ladybugs, but flies have also been a problem for several students. Sister Linda Kors, however, had a more serious problem. She said, "When I came in [to my room] there were a hundred bees between the curtain and the window."

Sr. Linda continued to have an average of 100 bees in her room every day for about three weeks. Her problem was solved when Maintenance discovered a small hole in the wall. The bees came into that hole and then got into Sr. Linda's room through a gap in the screen. Maintenance fixed the hole and solved Sr. Linda's problem.

However, many students are still having problems. Sophomore Jennifer Emeritz claimed that, "My roommate and I spent an hour killing bugs the other day and it's because the screens don't work properly. Even with the velcro, the screens just don't close. The bugs can crawl in. We had an infestation."

Many other students cite faulty screens as the means by which bugs enter their rooms. Sophomore Beth Liming, who has not had a problem with bugs this year, said, "I think it's because we got a new window and a new screen and it's very tight."

New screens seem to be the solution to the myriad of unwanted bugs in students' rooms, but in the meanwhile, students have their own methods of dealing with the insects.

A Noll R.A., who wished to remain anonymous, gave this account of his methods of killing stinkbugs, "I get creative sometimes and I burn them with my lighter. Then they really stink!"

Most students use more conventional means to kill the bugs. Using bug spray and smashing the insects with tissues are the most common methods of extermination and, of course, there were those students who preferred to just leave them alone.

What advice do these bug-slaying veterans have for students with similar problems? Gellert suggested that people, "Just pretend they're not even there, and pretty soon they'll shrivel up and die, and you won't even notice they're there except for their crusty bodies laying on the floor."

Emeritz, on the other hand, had a more useful solution. She and her roommate taped their window closed and reported a much lower incidence of bugs in their room afterwards.

Discovering the truth about Alcoholics Anonymous

by John Osborne

So there I was, in the one place I thought I would never be and the last I thought I would ever want to be. As I looked around the room, I couldn't help but notice my fellow students seemed to feel the same. I mean, let's face it, almost every college student in America would be lying if they didn't admit to feeling a little like a hypocrite if they attended an Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meeting.

I was more than a little thankful that I could say I had an official reason for being there, which was to gather information for this article. I will admit, though, that I was also curious. I wanted to see just what went on at these meetings, and if it was really the you're-a-terrible-person-because-you-drink seminar that it is depicted as in the movies.

The meeting started as I anticipated it would. The members (three alcoholics, one cross-addict, and the wife of one of the alcoholics) introduced themselves and acknowledged their drinking and drug problems. The oldest member explained what they were about and what the essence of the meeting would be. Instead of a speech loaded with moralistic condescension, his tone was very kind and inviting. I hadn't expected this and was honestly shocked. He explained that this was an "open" meeting where anyone could attend, and that Alcoholics Anonymous was just what the name said it was... anonymous. Everything said and done was confidential, even our presence there. We did not have to speak if we didn't want to or participate in any way. He told us that even though many meetings start with a prayer and encourage faith, AA is not a religious organization nor are they allied with any. With every word and gesture he tried to make us feel welcome and at ease, and stress that we could only get out of AA what we put into it.

After the groundwork was laid, the members took turns telling us about their experiences with substance abuse and how it had ruined their lives. As I listened to these people it began to sound like the same old song and dance I've heard all my life and in every movie about substance abuse. It was easy to feel compassion for them, but I kept wanting to say, "What the hell was wrong with you? How could you be so stupid as to throw away your job, your wife, and your family on something like alcohol?" Then I gazed down at one of the pamphlets I had picked up earlier and I was reminded that alcoholism is a disease...just like cancer. That was not good enough for me. Disease or not, they were the ones who chose to drink and give it to themselves, right? What this meeting is really about is refusing to take responsibility for their own actions, was it not?

When the meeting broke I felt like I deserved some answers to these and other questions. Partly because I was curious, but more because I needed to know how these people could buy into this game and I could not. It seemed to me that while AA had very honorable intentions, they did not help people to get on with their lives. It seemed they were saying, "You can live a long happy life clean and sober, but only if you stick to our plan and live the life we tell you to." This has always been the reason why rehabilitation was so hard for me to accept. In order to stay clean, they say you have to give up your lifestyle and life as you know it. Every decision you make is calculated. Never again can you throw caution to the wind. It's as if you have to live your life chained to a big rock that has "AA" written on it. The thought of that kind of life made me sick!

However, I wanted to give them a fair chance, so I decided to talk to the wife of one of the alcoholics in the hope that she could make me understand. Surprisingly, she did.

First, I asked her to define a drinking problem for me because it sounded to me that they labeled everyone who occasionally has a good time getting drunk an alcoholic.

"If it creates a problem in your life, then you have a drinking problem," she said, setting me straight. "Only an alcoholic can identify himself. Only they know when they've hit rock-bottom and realize they are powerless against it. Once that happens, they can ask for help. Until they are ready to be helped, nothing will change."

Fair enough, I can buy that. I asked her to explain the "powerless" business because that's hard to accept, especially for young people who generally think they are indestructible. She explained to me that it's hard for someone who's never been trapped like that to understand what it means to be powerless.

"When all you care about is finishing off one bottle and picking up the next, you're powerless." I asked if she meant that, to someone powerless, one drink was too many and a million was not enough, to which she responded, "Exactly."

I then asked her to explain why recovery is a never-ending process. "Once the physical need has passed, a lot of people think they are strong enough to resume their old life without drinking. What they don't understand is that alcoholism is a mental disorder. They have a mental obsession with alcohol."

Now it made at least some sense. If an alcoholic was sent out into the real world without his AA crutch, he would be like a fish out of water. He needs that structure and organization to survive. And when I thought about the powerless concept and the hate of giving up the old life, I realized that an alcoholic has already done that. He already traded in his old life for the one that currently looms in the shadow of the bottle. Now his focus is to make that shadow disappear. I saw for the first time that most people who are AA members have already acknowledged the presence of that shadow, while those in denial refuse to. To them they are not giving up something useful or anything that brings them happiness. As for responsibility, they are taking on more than I would care to imagine.

Before thanking the nice lady for her time and insight, I asked her how she was able to enjoy sharing her life with someone who is, and always will be, an alcoholic.

"I used to wait for happiness," she said, "but now I know it's an inside job. I don't dwell on negatives because you're going to have good days and bad ones. It also lessens the hurt inside to share and realize you are not responsible for someone being an alcoholic."

For more information on AA call Counseling Services at ext. 6117

In which direction is Admissions heading?

by Kristi Messmaker

Saint Joseph's College - "home" to many of us or our "home away from home." Yet, there are quite a few changes going on in our community. I find myself questioning - when I come back to visit in a few years, will I still perceive this place as home? Will I still feel comfortable on the property of SJC? Or will I have to look back on my four years in Rensselaer as "the good 'ole days" - when everyone knew who you were and you felt a certain attachment to the surroundings? Do the current freshmen feel the same fondness to this place that I do?

"The image given to me was false, and a lot of the literature I received seemed to be overexaggerated. The facilities are not as great as Admissions portrays them." These are the feelings of freshman, Jeffrey Kirch. He believes that Saint Joseph's is not as different from large universities as Admissions would like us to believe; not all their courses are taught by Teacher's Assistants and most of the students know their professors on a personal basis.

Is there deception in the Admissions office in order to increase enrollment numbers? Is this what the school has reduced itself to?

Candace McGroarty, senior and current RA, has attended large universities, yet has chosen Saint Joseph's as the school where she has "hung her hat," so to speak. She agrees with Kirch in that she did correspond with almost all of her professors when she went to Ball State University and Indiana-Purdue University Fort-Wayne. However, she believes that there is something unique about our school which the others lack: "The selling point for me was that everyone was so friendly - I thought (the tour) was a set-up."

Yet over and over again the word CHANGE hangs within the confines of our institution - we have a new President, new Vice President of Academic Affairs, new Dean of Admissions, various new Admission counselors, and several new professors as well as a "filtering out" of past p ofessors. So, what direction is this new change taking us? Are they (the new administration) taking away my home?

Louis Levy, the new Dean of Admissions, is very optimistic about the changes going on here at Saint Joseph's. However, he doesn't want to change the communal history of SJC. To him, change, becoming more future-oriented and moving on to bigger and better things, needs to go hand-in-hand with the "family" atmosphere.

Levy joined the family in May and has already implemented a new mailing system, has updated literature which is more accurate and appealing to prospective students, has broadened the traveling schedules of its counselors by hiring two new "road-runners," and has established a new Welcome Center which is located on the first floor of Schweiterman.

In fact, Levy refers to this Welcome Center as a sort of "living room." It has a family atmosphere and is a positive setting to begin the exploration of our school. The Welcome Center contains eloborate furnishings, but what exactly is the purpose of this expensive endeavor? Levy commented, "(prospective students) need to see the campus, not the working area of Admissions."

Levy replied that he is happy here and can see that SJC has a good future.

According to Brian Studebaker, a Saint Joseph's graduate and Admissions counselor for three years, Admissions does not conceal anything. In fact, he encourages the prospective students to "shop around" and visit other schools. "Saint Joseph's isn't the school for everyone," replied Studebaker.

To elaborate on this latter statement, although exact percentages were not available as to our current retention rate, most of the students who withdraw after first semester do not have high grade-point averages and do not like the "closeness" of our school.

When I was an RA last year, I remember one of my withdrawing freshmen telling me that she wanted to transfer to a large school so that she could "get lost in the crowd."

Admissions' job is to portray Saint Joseph's as realistically as they can.

What better way to do this than with five out of the eight counselors being SJC grads?

Studebaker, as one of these grads, believes that, "the family views you as more than a product of the school. We show them Saint Joseph's from personal experience."

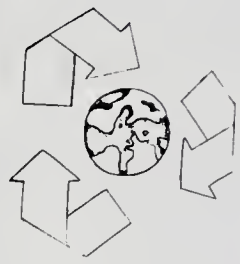
The remainig counselors are not oblivious to how our school operates. Most of them have graduated from small colleges or have Admissions experience in small colleges. I'm sure they know their own brand of "Puma Rumor." Besides, with all these different backgrounds, instead of a purely Puma perspective, new ideas are generated and are taking shape, as can be seen with this new Welcome Center.

How do you feel about Saint Joseph's College? Is this your home, or do you have clouded visions about the reality of this institution?

Ask the over-abundant amount of alumni that return for the Little 500 - the number alone should give you the answer.

Saint Joseph's is more than a nice place to visit... I like living here too!

Making a Difference



by Klaudia Janek

Have you ever thought about how the problem with aluminum can recycling could be solved? This issue has been a major concern of the Environmental Club this year and the problem is not easily solved. The state of Indiana should enact a bottle deposit law and the huge volume of cans that are thrown out now would sharply decrease. The answer is so simple, but feasible only at a state level.

Currently, under Michigan law all bottles, cans, 2-liters and 20 ounce plastic soda bottles are required to have a 10 cent deposit. So when purchasing beverages, a retailer will charge 10 cents extra for the container. When finished with the drink, the container is returned to a store and 10 cents is given back to the customer. From a money making perspective this is a good thing! Say you bring back 2 cases of cans, you'd receive $4.80 in return. (Several states on the East coast have a 5 cent deposit and California has cash redemption based on weight.)

Many schools in Michigan use the bottle deposit to their advantage. Collecting bottles and cans is a frequent fund raising activity for school groups. Students go door-to-door and collect cans and bottles, sort them and easily make about $500. Many small children are typically seen in public places collecting cans and bottles to make a few dollars.

Michigan has almost no problems with getting people to recycle their cans, etc. If Indiana would use this law as an example, than both the people and the environment would benefit. Then the Environmental Club would have one problem solved and would be able to concentrate on a paper recycling program!

SJC students pressed for cash (college students needing cash?) could return last weekends cans and have an extra $5 in their pockets! The answer is simple, so why shouldn't Indiana enact a bottle deposit law? I would like to hear any questions or comments so please e-mail stuff features@students@sjc.

WPUM changes format

by **Jenny Palecek**

THE WHOLE FUTURE OF THE RADIO STATION DEPENDS ON YOU! By now you all should have received, and hopefully completed the survey sent out by the radio station, concerning the new format of WPUM. This survey was sent to all students (via e-mail) and to local high schools, to get their input on the radio station.

There are three main reasons for the format change. The first is that it will give the DJ's a chance to see what it's like to work at a real station. Another reason is to satisfy the listeners. People will be able to tune in and know what kind of music is being played at a certain hour. The final reason is that in order for record companies to give WPUM free music they must have a format.

"We want people to be able to tune in and know what they are going to listen to" says WPUM manager Brian Corrigan. "That is our main goal." Although some people have had their doubts about the format, Corrigan assures them that, "Having a format won't mean the same songs will be played over and over again."

So what to the WPUM DJ's think of this new format? "I can understand the logic, but being here four years, it will be a difficult change," says senior Brian Guerre, "I don't like it. To me this is what college radio should be...fun!"

Freshman Donna Heitz has a different outlook, "I think it's a good idea. It makes the station more professional." Junior Mike Tackett agreed, "The change is good, we all should be more concerned with the station rather than ourselves."

The new format will be starting next semester. The results of the survey will determine what the new format will be, so it is important that all of them are completed and sent back ASAP.

Physical therapy aids recovery for athletes

by Ashley Pierce

Physical therapy has become a popular method of treatment for athletes dealing with injuries.

Among the most common injuries for athletes are ankle and knee sprains and strains. However, according to Head Trainer Shawn Coomer, "It varies from one sport to the next."

Physical therapy is used initially to control the body's reaction to the injury. Coomer noted, "There are a variety of different ways to control swelling, like icing and whirpools." After the initial swelling is gone, the athlete can begin exercises to regain mobility and strength. "The injury is strengthened through conditioning," commented Coomer.

One benefit of physical therapy is that athletes can return to play sooner. Through the use of physical therapy, Coomer remarked that the athletic trainers "help take proper care of the athlete" and return the athlete to play faster, and hopefully better than before. In most cases, rehabilitation is cut in half with physical therapy.

Physical therapy also helps by strengthening the area around the injury. Cheerleader Brenda Chezem, who underwent physical therapy after having surgery on her knee, commented that she had to lift weights and "do exercises to increase the strength" in her knee.

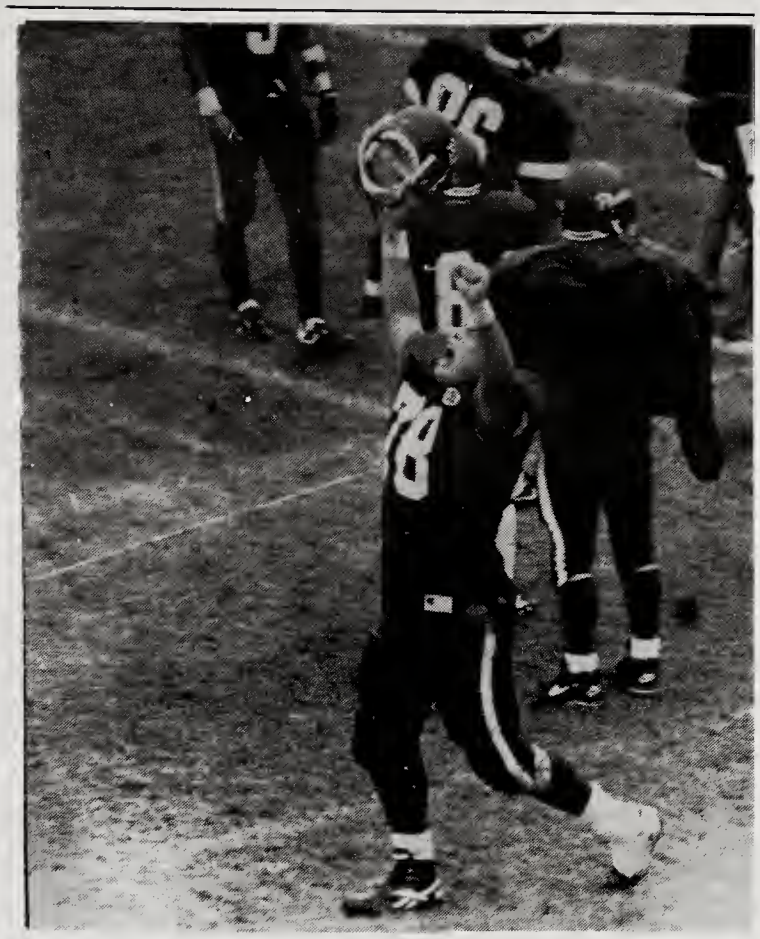
Along with strength, physical therapy also increases movement. Chezem said that before physical therapy, she "could hardly bend (her knee) at all."

Most athletes feel that physical therapy is very helpful. "It helped me a lot. They show you home exercises to keep it strengthened," explained Chezem.

From a coaches standpoint, therapy is a big help, too. Soccer Coach Mike Minelli said "It helps (athletes) a lot. It gets them back sooner. Without physical therapy, we would miss a lot of players."

Minelli also noted that physical therapy is very positive for athletes. "It gets them healthy to play agian," he commented.

Injuries may hinder athletes for the time being, but with physical therapy, they will be up and running in no time.



During Fall Break, the football team played an exciting game against Saginaw Valley. Pictured here, Sophomore J.B. Lind celebrates a successful play. The Pumas currently have a record of 3-6., after being defeated on Oct. 29 by Ashland University. The Pumas have only two games remaining in the season.

Pumas play strong game

by Jeremy White

Saint Joe's football team snapped its four game losing streak with a 20-13 win over Saint Francis on Oct. 22.

The victory boosted the team's overall record to 3-5 (with all three victories coming on the road at Howard Payne, Hillsdale, and Saint Francis, respectively), and also left open the possibility of a winning season.

Having been the unfortunate victims of close losses all season long, the team was finally able to turn things around with a nice defensive effort. By giving up only thirteen points, they managed to keep the game close as the offense was able to score just

The Pumas played another close game on Saturday against Ashland. The team was able to tie the game in the second quarter at 7-7. However, the Pumas lost in the end. The final score was Ashland 14, SJC 7. Freshman Chad Novack said, "Overall, it was a good effort of our team. The Defense played a tremendous game."

With one more home game left (on Nov. 12 against Indianapolis University), the team is still looking for its first victory at home this season.

The Pumas also have one more game on the road, which will be played against Ferris State on Nov. 5. Novack is optimistic about the team. he stated, "The team is improving every week."

Tennis team finishes season undefeated

by Courtney Shopmeyer

The tennis team concluded its season by defeating IUPUI and Division I Valparaiso.

After ending their regular season undefeated (14-0), the girls were able to continue their winning streak at the Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC) Tourney in Indianapolis. They began with a strong start, but were still down two points going into the finals.

The Pumas fought hard, and were able to regain the lead for the wrap up of the tournament. The Puma Tennis team won all of the finals that they were in , and defeated Indianapolis,which finished second, with the final score being 28-18.

Mary Quasney was named GLVC Player of the Year, and Coach John Barrientos also received a prestigious honor ,being named GLVC Coach of the Year. As a whole, the team hopes to participate in the regional tournament held in April at the Air Force Academy.

Team members who competed and won in the GLVC finals were Singles: (1) Mary Quasney, (2) Liz Rowden, (3) Jen Silva, (4) Manda Hollis, (6) Jen Lehman and Doubles: (1) Quasney and Rowden, (3) Hollis and Silva.

The doubles teams that were successful at GLVC also traveled to Indianapolis to compete in the Rolex Tournament. There, Quasney and Rowden won the doubles title, and Quasney also took home the singles division title. Both players will travel to Oklahoma to participate in the Division II finals.

Successful season ahead for Puma softball team

by Sean Mangan

The women's softball team is looking forward to a productive and successful season. With plenty of young freshman talent, the team expects to have increased competition and depth in the roster.

The fourth annual 100 inning game was held on Sunday, Sept. 18. The team began collecting pledges over the summer to raise money for items such as uniforms and bags. The game began at 9:00 a.m. and lasted until 2:00 p.m. The fund raiser was like a family picnic where everyone joins in the festivities. "It was a big picnic because everyone was helping to cook. It was like a Sunday tournament," noted Coach Earnest Watson.

The team has also been involved in some activities to help the less fortunate. Recently, the team participated in a five mile walk for the March of Dimes. In addition to the walk for charity, the team has visited a nursing home in town and helped people in town by raking their lawns. The softball team has shown that it is effective both on and off the field.

Watson is anticipating a successful season and feels the freshmen will play an essential role in improving the team. With many new freshmen, the players will be competing for positions which will raise the quality of play.

Competition within the team seems to be the key to improvement. "We have competition in all areas, and I think that's going to make a better team. We need to be more mentally in the game," noted Elizabeth Olivetti. Being involved mentally is important to the team's success. "Mental mistakes have proven to be the team's demise" she added.

With the team focusing on mental toughness and fundamentals, a large improvement in the team's performance in expected.

The Lady Puma volleyball team has had a productive season. The team lost in four matches on Oct. 29 agaainst the University of Indianapolis. The team faces St. Francis College on Nov. 2, and Kent Wesleyan on Nov. 4. Their current record is 9-18.

Lady Pumas look forward to upcoming season

by Jill Peterson

"Let the ball do the running for you," is an appropriate motto for the Saint Joseph's women's basketball team this year.

In his first year coaching the Lady Pumas, Athletic Director and Head Coach, Lynn Plett brings great strategy to the upcoming season. After four years as men's head coach at Huntington College, Plett is very optimistic. She stated, "I'm impressed with the way the women are progressing as far as learning my strategy and style of play. They are working extremely hard in practice."

Plett believes the team's hard work during practice will affect the season to come. "The intense preseason conditioning and our long practices will enable our team to play at a fast tempo. We plan to wear our opponents down with quickness," Plett said.

Sophomore Becky Hicklin observed another strength of the Lady Pumas. She commented, "Everybody can contribute to the benefit of the team. I think that substituting players in and out will be an asset because we have the depth to bring anyone off the bench."

With only one player lost to graduation, the Pumas return 12 letter winners. Finishing 5th in the conference last season, Saint Joseph's hopes to improve. "The four schools that finished ahead of us all lost at least three starters. We have a strong freshman class both academically and basketball wise," Assistant Coach Franky Curiel noted.

Curiel, in his third year coaching at Saint Joseph's, also commented that the freshmen could play several minutes and be key contributors to the success of the team. The freshmen players are looking forward to a successful season. "I'm excited to be a part of such a positive team that has a good outlook for this season. Even though it's going to be a challenge playing at the college level, I'm definitely ready for the season to begin," Puma Freshman Sarah Krey said.

Goals are going to be stressed to keep the team focused at all times. "Our major goal is to win the conference and advance to the NCAA Division II tournament," Sophomore Marketing major Heather Meyer said. Last year, the squad averaged 71 points per game. This year, the staff hopes to see offensive figures soar into the 80's. "We plan on pressing a lot in order to allow us to get more shots at the other end of the court. We have the athletic ability and need to capitalize on our advantages over opponents," Curiel added.

Recently, the Pumas were picked to finish 4th in the Great Lakes Valley Conference, as determined by the coaches in the conference. The NCAA Division II newsletter stated that Saint Joe will challenge for the third spot.

Curiel does not agree. He remarked, "I, as a hopeless optimist, predict that we should be one of the top two teams in the Great Lakes Valley Conference."

Hopefully, injuries will not upset the team's success. Over the summer, Junior Mindy Laffoon and Meyer had knee surgery. They had speedy recoveries and are now fully involved in practice. Junior Kathy Peters will be redshirted, making her eligible for two additional seasons.

The upcoming season is looking promising among the players. According to Senior Lori Hissong, "It is going to be not only exciting for us players, but for the fans as well."

The team believes it is going to be a great season because of the new style of basketball they will be playing. Hissong explained, "Since we are going to play the "free style" type of basketball that Coach Plett likes, the fans will be in for some great games to watch. There are going to be a lot of three pointers and fast breaks."

ThePumas are confident about the upcoming season. Hissong noted, "We're looking forward to a fun season!"

A Halloween Golf Outing

by Kathleen Brass

Since it was Halloween weekend, some friends and I decided to experience the wonderful world of haunted houses.

Now for those who know me, going anywhere in public with me is not a good idea. I have a tendency to make a spectacle of myself. But we made the trip to Merrillville to party with the demons anyway.

First we stopped at McDonald's for dinner, which as always tasted great. Then we hit the highway and the excitement began.

As you all know, it is hard to eat and drive at the same time. For this reason, all five of us took turns trying to steer around semis and not get squished in the process.

All I can say is that back seat drivers are better than no drivers at all.

We eventually reached our destination - Broadmore Golf Center. Unlike other haunted houses, here you drive a golf cart through the golf course, while demons jump out and try to scare you.

We waited in line for an hour. During this time we were not only frightened by the scary sights and sounds of the golf course, but also by the craziest looking people I have ever seen in my life who were standing in line with us. (This is hard to do being that I am from Chicago!)

Finally it was our turn. We boarded our golf cart and because I was so excited my friends decided to let me drive in hopes it would shut me up. Big mistake!

During my first scare. by a man with a chainsaw, I slightly wet my pants and drove into the guard string which was serving as the path directory. Then a man jumped onto the back of the golf cart (a stupid mistake on his part) and I proceeded to whack the hell out of him, over and over again, with the hand I wasn't driving with. Eventually he fell off the cart and we continued down the road.

Later another creature tried to attack us and I felt it necessary to run him over with the golf cart in order to put him in his place. Lucky for him he was much to quick for those little carts.

By the end of the drive my throat was sore from screaming and the owners of the haunted golf course DO NOT want me to ever return! Personally, I do not blame them.

But I really think they should make those little golf carts go much faster. How else are you supposed to run down little me in ugly pants playing golf?

Little Cousin Jasper

by James Whitcomb Riley

For those of you who were wondering how our local festival got its name, here is the poem by Indiana poet James Whitcomb Riley.

Little Cousin Jasper, he
Don't live in this town, like me-
He lives way to Rensselaer,
An' ist comes to visit here.

He says our court-house square
Ain't nigh big as theirn is there!-
He says their town's big as four
Er five towns like this, an' more!

He says ef his folks moved here
He'd cry to leave Rensselaer-
'Cause there's prairies there an lakes,
An' wile-ducks an' rattlesnakes!

Yes, `n' little Jasper's Pa
Shoots most things you ever saw!
Wunst he shot a deer, one day
'At swummed off an' got away.

Little Cousin Jasper went
An' camped out wunst in a tent
Wiv his Pa, an' helt a his gun
While he kilt a turrapun.

An' when his Ma heerd o' that
An' more things his Pa's bin at,
She says, "Yes, 'n he'll git shot
'Fore he's man-grown, like as not!"

An' they's mussrats there, an' minks,
An' di-dippers, an' chee-winks-
Yes, 'n' cal-mus-root you chew
All up an' 't 'on't pizen you!

An', in town, 's a flag-pole there-
Highest one 'at's anywhere
In this world! - wite in the street
Where the big mass-meetin's meet.

Yes, 'n' Jasper he says they
Got a brass band there, an' play
On it, an' march up an' down
An' all over round the town!

Wisht our town ain't like it is!-
Wisht it's ist as big as his!
Wisht 'at his folks they'd move here,
An' we'd move to Rensselaer!

We thought we would share with you this bit of local history in an attempt to shed light on the history of not only Saint Joseph's College but the surrounding area as well. For more information about local history or James Whitcomb Riley consult the college library.

The Quote of the Week

"The millions are awake enough for physical labor; but only one in a million is awake enough for effective intellectual exertion, only one in a hundred million to a poetic or divine life."

Henry David Thoreau

Barney Rubble Mystery Solved!
More Food For Thought

by Potts and McGroarty

First of all, Greg and I would like to thank all of you who gave us your input to try and solve the Barney Rubble occupation dilemma.

We appreciate the effort you all put forth to end our sleepless nights.

Thanks to senior John Zmaczynski who presented our dilemma on the USENET newsgroup rec.arts.animation, and he received an answer from Joseph D. Cabrera.

In his return e-mail, Cabrera responded that Barney's "actual job was almost never referred to. The closest mention of an actual occupation was in an early episode where Fred mentioned that Barney was a broom-pusher ("No Help Wanted," original airdate May 5, 1961).

He only worked with Fred at the quarry in one episode, where it was discovered that Barney was actually the nephew of Fred's boss, Mr. Slate (Fred's New Boss," September 21, 1962); but Barney quit and went back to his old job by the end of the episode. Later revivals of the show in the 1970's and onward had Fred and Barney both working at the quarry for Mr. Slate."

Thank you John for helping to solve our dilemma. Isn't modern technology wonderful?

We also received e-mail from JaLeen Deardruff who gave us other mysteries of the world to ponder.

JaLeen wondered why Carol Brady always bought milk in quart sized containers when she had a house full of six children?

JaLeen also brought to our attention that the dog house stayed on the show even after Tiger was gone. She informed us that it was because they had had a small fire on the set and the dog house covered up the black mark that was left.

She also brought it to our attention that Kentucky Fried Chicken refers to their chicken "frontal pieces" as ribs. Which is another food name that I am sure certain interest groups would like to get rid of as well! Thanks for your comments and keep them coming!